

Appendix B: CRPS for censored, shifted gamma distribution

Two integration formulae

Denote by F_k the CDF and by f_k the density of a gamma distribution with shape parameter k and unit scale. Further denote by $\Gamma(\cdot)$ the gamma function and by $B(\cdot, \cdot)$ is the beta function.

1. Using the relation $xf_k(x) = kf_{k+1}(x)$ we obtain

$$\int_{\tilde{y}}^{\infty} xf_k(x) dx = k(1 - F_{k+1}(\tilde{y}))$$

2. Using the recurrence relation

$$F_{k+1}(x) = F_k(x) - f_{k+1}(x)$$

(this can be derived for the lower incomplete gamma function via integration by parts and then be rewritten for the gamma CDF) and the duplication formula

$$\Gamma(k)\Gamma(k + \frac{1}{2}) = 2^{1-2k} \sqrt{\pi} \Gamma(2k),$$

we can perform integration by substitution and use the properties of the gamma density function to obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\tilde{c}}^{\infty} F_{k+1}(x)f_k(x) dx &= \int_{\tilde{c}}^{\infty} F_k(x)f_k(x) dx - \int_{\tilde{c}}^{\infty} f_{k+1}(x)f_k(x) dx \\ &= \int_{F_k(\tilde{c})}^1 x dx - \frac{\Gamma(2k)}{\Gamma(k)\Gamma(k+1)} \frac{1}{2^{2k}} \int_{2\tilde{c}}^{\infty} f_{2k}(x) dx \\ &= \frac{1}{2} (1 - F_k(\tilde{c})^2) - \frac{\Gamma(k + \frac{1}{2})}{2\sqrt{\pi}\Gamma(k+1)} (1 - F_{2k}(2\tilde{c})) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} (1 - F_k(\tilde{c})^2) - \frac{1}{2\pi} B(\frac{1}{2}, k + \frac{1}{2}) (1 - F_{2k}(2\tilde{c})) \end{aligned}$$

where the last equation uses that $\Gamma(\frac{1}{2}) = \sqrt{\pi}$.

Applying again the relation $xf_k(x) = kf_{k+1}(x)$ and integration by parts, we then get

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\tilde{c}}^{\infty} xF_k(x)f_k(x) dx &= k(1 - F_k(\tilde{c})F_{k+1}(\tilde{c})) - k \int_{\tilde{c}}^{\infty} F_{k+1}(x)f_k(x) dx \\ &= \frac{k}{2} (1 - 2F_k(\tilde{c})F_{k+1}(\tilde{c}) + F_k(\tilde{c})^2) + \frac{k}{2\pi} B(\frac{1}{2}, k + \frac{1}{2}) (1 - F_{2k}(2\tilde{c})) \end{aligned}$$

The actual CRPS formula

We use the abbreviations $\tilde{c} := -\frac{\delta}{\theta}$ and $\tilde{y} := \frac{y-\delta}{\theta}$, perform first integration by substitution, then integration by parts, and finally plug in the preceding expressions to get

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^{\infty} |F_k(\frac{x-\delta}{\theta}) - \mathbf{1}_{[y, \infty)}(x)|^2 dx &= \theta \int_{\tilde{c}}^{\infty} |F_k(x) - \mathbf{1}_{[\tilde{y}, \infty)}(x)|^2 dx \\ &= \theta \int_{\tilde{c}}^{\tilde{y}} F_k(x)^2 dx + \theta \int_{\tilde{y}}^{\infty} (F_k(x) - 1)^2 dx \\ &= \theta \tilde{y} (2F_k(\tilde{y}) - 1) - \theta \tilde{c} F_k(\tilde{c})^2 - 2\theta \int_{\tilde{c}}^{\infty} xF_k(x)f_k(x) dx + 2\theta \int_{\tilde{c}}^{\infty} xf_k(x) dx \\ &= \theta \tilde{y} (2F_k(\tilde{y}) - 1) - \theta \tilde{c} F_k(\tilde{c})^2 + \theta k (1 + 2F_k(\tilde{c})F_{k+1}(\tilde{c}) - F_k(\tilde{c})^2 - 2F_{k+1}(\tilde{y})) \\ &\quad - \frac{\theta k}{\pi} B(\frac{1}{2}, k + \frac{1}{2}) (1 - F_{2k}(2\tilde{c})) \end{aligned}$$